

## REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance are respectfully requested for claims 17-31, 33-34 and 37 in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Claims 32, 35-36 and 38 are cancelled by this amendment.

The claims are amended to reflect that the dye consists essentially of brilliant blue R. This limitation previously appeared in claim 38 and is supported in the specification at least in paragraph [0009] of the application as filed (clean version).

The rejections of claims 7-37 (it appears that claims 17-37 were intended) and claims 38 and 39 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 are respectfully traversed. These rejections are based on the use of the word “vital” in the claims. As amended, this word no longer appears in the claims, accordingly reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 22-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as being dependent on claim 16 is respectfully traversed. As amended, the dependency of these claims is now correct. Accordingly withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 17-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully traversed. Like the § 101 rejection above, this rejection is based on the use of the word “vital” in the claims. As amended, this word no longer appears in the claims. Accordingly reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 37 and 38 under 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully traversed. Like the rejections discussed above, this rejection is based on the use of the word “vital” in the claims. As amended, this word no longer appears in the claims. Accordingly reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the foregoing, the application is respectfully submitted to be in condition for allowance, and prompt favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket No. 037204.56176US).

Respectfully submitted,

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